

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee
April 25, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes
1:00 to 2:30 PM

Chair Burnett conducted and called the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee, April 25, 2024, regular hybrid meeting to order at 1:11 PM, at City Hall in Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street. Watch the **COBAAC April 25, 2024, livestream recording**.

1. Roll Call: Committee Members.

Members Present Virtually (4):

- Aaron Rivers, He/Him
- Liz Woodfin, She/Her
- Nicholas Radon, He/Him/His
- Whitney Bennett, She/Her

Members Present In-Person (3):

- Chair, Chair Carl Burnett, He/Him
- Vice-Chair John Heylin, He/Him
- Derek Hofbauer, He/Him

Members Excused Absence: (4)

Amanda Hamer, She/Her
Kori Sparks, She/Her
Liz Diether-Martin, She/Her
Stephanie Utzman, She/Her

Staff in Attendance:

- Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/ella, Accessibility & Equity Manager / COBAAC Staff Liaison. *(In-Person)*
- Andrés Portela, He/Him, Equity, and Inclusion Director. *(In-Person)*
- Barb Campbell, She/Her/Hers, Councilor, COBAAC Council Liaison. *(In-Person)*
- Lisa Donahue, Network Administrator I, Information Technology. *(In-Person)*
- Katherina Barguil, She/They, Community Relations Manager. *(Virtual)*

Leadership Bend 2024 Project

- Ben Berry, Morrison-Maierle

2. Land Acknowledgment: COBAAC Volunteer.

a. *City of Bend Land Acknowledgement*

We would like to acknowledge that the beautiful land, known as Bend, Oregon, north to the Columbia River is the original homeland of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The Confederated Tribes ceded this land in the Treaty of 1855 while retaining regular and customary hunting, fishing, and gathering rights. The Wana Łama (Warm Springs), Wasq'ú (Wasco), and Northern Paiute people inhabited this area in certain seasonal times that clearly established their presence. It is also important to note that the Klamath Trail ran north through this region to the great Celilo Falls trading grounds. This trade route expanded the impact of commerce between Tribal nations. We acknowledge and thank the original stewards of this land. It is our hope that guests continue to honor and care for this land.

3. Minutes Approval: Approve February 22, & March 25, 2024, Draft Minutes. **Timestamp 7:16**

Motion: Member Vice Chair Heylin motioned to approve the COBAAC February 22, 2024, Draft Minutes as read, with no corrections. Member Hofbauer seconded the motion. The motion to approve the February 22, 2024, unanimously passed by all voting members who attended today's meeting, in person (3) and virtually (4).

Motion: Member Vice Chair Heylin motioned to approve the COBAAC March 25, 2024, Draft Minutes as read, with no corrections. Member Hofbauer seconded the motion. The motion to approve the March 25, 2024, unanimously passed by all voting members who attended today's meeting, in person (3) and virtually (4).

4. Leadership Bend 2024 Project Accessibility Impact Update: Ben Berry, Project Leader. **Timestamp 9:24**

Update from Project Leader Berry:

- The City's User Experience (UX) Designer, Riggle is creating a working draft that will function as website for the Accessibility and Equity Kehoe and COBAAC members to review. Leadership Bend cohorts will receive their feedback and make those updates to the website.
- Two portions of the project are progressing while waiting for the website.
- Leadership Bend project team member, Haag, will collect Interviews for qualitative data and Community experience.
 - Manager Kehoe is asking for COBAAC members to share the small list of testimonial questions and add quality responses to the new website.
- Leadership Bend is working with the City of Bend Business Advocate, Mooney, Cascade Business News, and Bend Chamber to produce a series of press releases to advertise the new website in month.

Questions from COBAAC:

- How are the answers are going to be used specifically?
 - We will remove attributions, summarizing, and using direct quotes. Experiences are part of the approach, while providing useful information. Providing a case of why people should care and make changes.

5. COBAAC Strategic Plan Subgroup Updates: Timestamp 15:23

a. Improving Transportation & Infrastructure Group: Presenter Chair Burnett and member: Bennett.

- **Walk and Roll Tour - Commute Options**, Thursday, May 16th walk and roll tour, Millers Landing Park (4-5:30 PM). This is an opportunity to identify barriers in the sidewalk network:
 - 4:00 - 4:20 p.m. Gather, Introductions, Bend Works Download, Basics on Barrier Removal Requests.
 - 4:20 - 5:00 p.m. Walk + Roll the 0.7-mile route.

- 5:00 p.m. - on Discuss/Debrief at El Sancho (light refreshments provided by the City of Bend).
 - Meet at Miller’s Landing Park picnic shelter.
 - Follow the Deschutes River Trail and NW Riverfront St.
 - North to the pedestrian bridge
 - Head through Columbia Park to NW Columbia St.
 - Cross Columbia St. and head north to NW Elgin Ave.
 - Head west on Elgin to NW 12th St.
 - Head north on NW 12th St.
 - Head west on Galveston.
 - Cross Galveston at 13th St.
 - Finish at El Sancho West, 1254 NW Galveston.
- On-Demand Airport Transportation:
 - Due to the planning of the Walk & Roll Event and the COBAAC BBQ, they have not had the capacity to discuss On-Demand Airport Transportation.
- b. Creating an Accessible Community Group:
- Accessibility and Equity Manager Kehoe will start the process of reserving and the park agreement/site plan for Miller’s Landing.
 - Community Partners? Is it a COBAAC Awareness? City and Community Partners?
 - They will discuss the menu again due to the parks no open flame policy.
 - Look if there is a city food policy. Alter the name away from BBQ.
 - Group meet in early May to plan and to sort out the details and who will make the purchases for food and paper products, serve, and cleanup crews.
 - Council Liaison volunteered to serve dessert.
 - Date: Friday, June 14, 2024, 3 to 6 or 7 p.m. (reserved from 2 to 9 p.m.)
- c. Creating a Culture of Accessibility within the City of Bend:
- Two of the members of this team were absent at today's meeting. They have had problems contacting Trauma Informed Oregon to talk about training.
- Manager / Staff Liaison Kehoe discussed the possibility of bystander intervention training.

6. COBAAC Roundtable: Timestamp 33:37

Vice Chair, Heylin:

- CORE Area Advisory Board
 - Grant for business improvements,
 - city of Bend had interpreters, there was an intentional effort.
 - Culima got an approval.
 - 100k
 - Score free Business Nonprofit
 - Potential coaching through process.

Member Hofbauer:

- Attending APTA Conference.
 - Mobility conference in Portland
 - Transit and Accessibility and tech projects.
 - Breaking Barriers Life Beyond Labels
 - Dan Hague – Improving Accessibility
 - Potentially invite him to COBAAC
 - April 30th Sprout
 - Upcoming **Autism Walk and Festival**
 - May 11th 10 AM

Member Bennett:

- Walk and Roll Tour, May 16, 2024

Chair Burnett:

- **Bend Bike Night**
 - Participation is requested.
 - May 13, 2024, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
 - The Grove at NW crossing

7. Accessibility and Equity Manager Update: Cassandra Kehoe, She/Her/Ella.

- COBAAC Feedback for Leadership Bend Website:
 - Next few weeks there will be a solicitation for feedback.
 - Create direction and write something business can digest.
 - Thanks for Leadership Bend.
- Upcoming Community Equity Events.
- April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month:
 - SA + People with Disabilities.
 - Read statistics.
 - Information on Helplines were shared into the space.

8. Agenda Setting:

- May 23rd at 1 PM
- Recap all the events.
 - Walk and Roll Tour Recap.
 - CET from Conference.
- Recap of Whats Happening.
- Impediments to Fair Housing.
- Transportation / David Abbass (Funding for Accessibility)
- Multi-unit property Tax exemption
 - Four applications.
 - Changing the requirements that paused the program.
 - An Accessibility Component?
 - Member Radon wants to be a part of the conversation.

- Millers Landing was approved. Summer 2025 completion!
- Drake Park Foot Bridge.
 - Transient room tax.

9. COBAAC Council Liaison Update: Councilor Barb Campbell, She/Her/Hers.

- Transportation Updates:
 - We must make decisions around the GO bond.
 - Costs are higher than expected.
 - Connecting to Juniper Ridge and Drake Park
 - Leveraging grant monies
- Earth Day:
 - **Advenchair**
 - Open Space May 28th Film Screening
- Vice Chair Heylin:
 - Future City Hall Access?
 - Council Liaison Campbell’s response:
 - The first rendering had that.
- Chair Burnett:
 - Go Bond Projects
 - Is the bridge an Example? Other examples?
 - No because we have been effective.
 - Locations are large bicycle networks.
 - Separation from traffic
 - Protected bike lanes
 - Transportation projects are 30 percent higher than expected.
 - Pandemic changed our costs.
 - We are not at the point of cutting funding, we are looking for a grant coordinator.
 - Go Bond Funding? Can they be a part of a matching grant?
 - We do not have an answer.

10. Our next COBAAC meeting will be next year: Thursday, May 23, 2024, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

11. Adjourn: Share Welcoming Week and other important dates. With no further COBAAC business, Chair Burnett adjourned the April 25, 2024, City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee hybrid meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Submitted respectfully,

Lisa Larsen,
Administrative Support Specialist, Accessibility and Equity



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc., please contact the Accessibility and Equity Manager Cassandra Kehoe at ckehoe@bendoregon.gov or call 541-693-2141. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.